

Thus, all of Claims 1 to 40 should be examined in the same application and therefore, withdrawal of the restriction requirement and an action on the merits for all claims is respectfully requested.

Finally, the Office Action entered an Election of Species requirement in which an election of one species from among Figures 3, 4, 6, 9, 11 and 15 was required. While the Office Action failed to identify which species corresponds to which figure, thereby making an election of one species nearly impossible, Applicant hereby elects a species which corresponds to Figs. 3, 6 and 15 and submits that elected Claims 11 and 32 read on the elected species. However, should the restriction be withdrawn, and in light of the addition of linking Claims 39 and 40, it is believed that the election requirement is moot, or in the alternative, that Claims 39 and 40 are generic to all species.

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows: